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January 26, 2001

Janice A. Pearson  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency,  
Region VIII  
Office of Enforcement, Compliance and  
Environmental Justice  
999 18<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 500, 8ENF-T  
Denver, CO 80202-2466

*Re: In the matter of Hecla Mining Company, Docket No. RCRA 8-99-06*

Dear Ms. Pearson:

It was a pleasure to talk with you again, however brief, during the conference telephone call we participated in yesterday morning. The call was certainly beneficial in resolving the majority of remaining concerns associated with Hecla Mining Company's Sampling and Analysis Work Plan for Pond 2 at the Apex site. It appears we are very close to concluding these Plan detail discrepancies, so we can proceed with the work plan in a timely fashion.

Based on my notes from yesterday's conference call, I had two items falling within my "to do" list that required immediate attention. They were as follows:

- Provide your office with the topographic map that was produced late last fall for the Pond 2 area.
- Provide your office with the results of the December 12, 2000 sampling event of Collection Pond #1 and Evaporation Pond #2.

I have enclosed three copies of the topographic map for the Apex site. This map was supposed to have been already sent, and I apologize for the delay. Upon receipt of the map, I placed it in my files and neglected to forward a copy to your office. Again, I apologize for this oversight on my part.

Also enclosed you will find a copy of the entire DataChem Laboratories report pertaining to the results from the December 12 sampling event at Pond 2. We would also be interested in comparing the results with those of your laboratory, and would certainly appreciate receiving your results once they have been completed.

If you have any questions or desire to discuss any of these items, please feel free to contact me at your convenience. My card is attached for your convenience. I look forward to working with you in the future as we progress towards a successful reclamation conclusion for the Pond 2 site.

Sincerely,

Gary L. Nelson  
Sr. Metallurgical Engineer  
Hecla Mining Company

**RECEIVED****JAN 30 2001**

Attachments

cc: Gary Gamble (minus attachments)  
John Galbavy (minus attachments)

